

# The Public Service Commission State of South Carolina

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Legal Department F. David Butler, Senior Counsel Phone: (803) 896-5113 Fax: (803) 896-5231

April 30, 2014

Jocelyn G. Boyd Chief Clerk/Administrator Phone: (803) 896-5133 Fax: (803) 896-5246

Mrs. Lori G. Annen

Enoree, SC 29335

Re: Lockhart Power Case - Docket No. 2013-378-E

Dear Mrs. Annen:

We are in receipt and we thank you for your letter of April 25, 2014 as regards the above-captioned case. Your letter was marked "Petition to Intervene," and I am writing to inquire as to your true intent as to your status in this case. When we receive a Petition to Intervene, it normally means that the sender wants to be a Party of Record in the case, which would allow them to participate as an individual in the actual hearing on the merits. Such a person would have the right to file written testimony for oral presentation at the hearing and/or to cross-examine witnesses at the hearing. We were not sure whether you wanted to invoke these rights, or whether you simply wanted to express your views as stated in the letter.

I would note that separate hearings for members of the public are often held in these cases, where citizens can simply walk in, sign up, and, when called on, express their views to the Commission. No written submission ahead of time is required. Such a hearing has been proposed to be held in Spartanburg County in this case, although the Commission has not voted on the proposal.

But, in any event, please let us know what you really want to do in this case. You may actually desire to be an Intervenor, who files written testimony ahead of time and makes an oral presentation to the Commission (subject to cross-examination by the parties) and/or who cross-examines witnesses at hearings on the merits. Or you may simply want to be shown as expressing your views on the merits of the case and/or express your views at a separate public hearing, if available. Although I cannot talk with you personally about this matter, you could call Courtney Edwards, Esquire of the Office of Regulatory Staff who could further discuss this question with you. She can be reached at (803)-737-8440 for further information.

Mrs. Lori G. Annen	
April 30, 2014	
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Please let us know as soon as possible your views on these matters.

Thank you for your help and consideration.

Sincerely,

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F. David Butler Senior Counsel

cc: M. John Bowen, Jr., Esquire Courtney D. Edwards, Esquire From the desk of: Lori Gregory Annen

Enoree, SC 29335



Docket No. 2013-378-E Petition to Intervene

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to file a petition to intervene for Lockhart Power Company's request to increase their prices. I have been a customer with Lockhart Power since 2010. Previously I was a customer with Duke Energy in Spartanburg, SC. I currently live in Union County on the Spartanburg/Union County line.

While in Spartanburg with Duke Energy my family and I were able to be on a payment plan that allows you to pay a set amount monthly and pay any difference at the end of the year. We paid \$69.95 per month and had to pay a minimal amount if any at the end of the year. Since moving to Union county and being with Lockhart our power bill in the beginning averaged about —) per month. Now it averages per month. This past February my power bill was — Which I believe is all price gauging. I have copies of my power bills to share if necessary. I will include a copy of the bill that was with this letter.

My parents live in Spartanburg County and have a home much larger than mine and do not pay nearly the amount that we pay for our power bill. I will also provide copies of their bills if necessary to compare rates for neighboring counties. During February, I was so upset with my power bill and shared the rate with friends. One friend who also lives in Spartanburg County said her power bill also went up but from I would love to pay any of these amounts on a monthly basis. But we are not given a choice. I frankly feel quite helpless and stuck with this company. Is this not considered a monopoly? Can we not request to have Duke Energy be our source for power or at the least have our power billed at similar rates as neighboring counties? I dare say anyone reading this or reviewing this pays such a high power bill.

I not only want to petition for Lockhart to not be allowed to increase their prices, but I am seeking help and the ability to choose another provider such as Duke Energy. At least then I will be able to afford paying my power bill. Currently, I have never missed paying a bill. Union County is one of the poorest counties in the state of South Carolina, and I would be willing to bet that we pay some of the highest power bills in the state. Please help us get off the Lockhart Power grind and be able to pay Duke Energy directly.

Sincerely,

l bri Annen



LOCKHART POWER COMPANY P.O. BOX 40 LOCKHART, SC 29364 PHONE: (864) 545-2211 (800) 368-1289

#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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ENOREE, SC 29335

**DUE DATE ACCOUNT #** STATEMENT # 159803 02/25/2014 TOTAL **AMOUNT** BALANCE CURRENT **DUE NOW** AMT. DUE **FORWARD CHARGES** 0.00 PLEASE ENTER AMOUNT PAID 01

PLEASE WRITE YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER ON YOUR CHECK AND REMIT PAYMENT TO:

LOCKHART POWER COMPANY P.O. BOX 40 LOCKHART, SC 29364

### RETURN THIS PORTION WITH PAYMENT. IF PAYING IN PERSON PLEASE BRING ENTIRE BILL.

*∴* LockhartPower LOCKHART POWER COMPANY P.O. BOX 40 LOCKHART, SC 29364 PHONE: (864) 545-2211 (800) 368-1289

WWW.LOCKHARTPOWER.COM

STATEMENT NUMBER 159803 STATEMENT DATE 02/10/2014

DUE DATE 02/25/2014

CHIDDENT MONTHLY ACTIVITY

ACCOUNT NUMBER				
SERVICE ADDRESS 230 BLACKSTOCK RD				
BILL CYCLE	01			
ELECTRIC RATE	R			
CURRENT READ DATE	02/03/2014			
PREVIOUS READ DATE	01/02/2014			
CURRENT ELECTRIC READING	98428			
PREVIOUS ELECTRIC READING	92450			
MULTIPLIER	1			
POWER ADI CLAUSE RATE PER KW	Н 0.00720			

SERVICE TO	NO. OF DAYS	USAGE	AVG. USE PER DAY
2/1/13	30	3941	131
3/1/13	28	3815	136
4/2/13	32	3738	117
5/2/13	30	1849	62
6/1/13	30	2034	68
7/2/13	31	2879	93
8/2/13	31	3027	98
9/3/13	32	2821	88
10/3/13	30	2109	70
11/1/13	29	1543	53
12/2/13	31	3643	118
1/2/14	31	3446	111
2/3/14	32	5978	187

NOTICE: BILLS WILL BE DELINQUENT IF NOT PAID ON OR BEFORE THE DUE DATE INDICATED ABOVE

#### **MESSAGE CENTER**

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#### **CLERK'S OFFICE**

## NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING

#### **DOCKET NO. 2013-378-E**

# Application of Lockhart Power Company for General Increase in Electric Rates

Pursuant to S. C. Code Ann. §§58-27-860 and 58-27-870 (Supp. 2013), Lockhart Power Company (Lockhart or the Company) filed an application for a general increase in its electric rates with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission). Lockhart is a public utility operating in South Carolina, where it is engaged in the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electricity to the public for compensation. According to the Application, Lockhart currently charges rates approved by the Commission as allowed by Order No. 2011-564 (Docket No. 2010-181-E). The Application states that Lockhart has been making investments in its generation, transmission, and distribution systems. Lockhart's return on rate base for its retail operations as adjusted is 4.07% for the twelve months ended December 31, 2012 – the Test Year. Further, the Application states that Lockhart has recently made three significant investments in generation, as outlined on page two of the Application, which will result in a further decrease in its return on rate base.

According to the Application, Lockhart's proposed rates will produce a rate of return on retail rate base of 12.5% during the Test Year after the appropriate pro forma adjustments have been made. Additionally, the Application reveals that the proposed rates will produce an overall increase in retail revenues of 6.77% or a \$1,203,215 annual increase over the present test year retail revenue. According to the Company, Lockhart has designed its rates in a way that will move most customer classes toward the average rate of return, while mitigating the impact of the increase on any individual class of customers. According to Exhibit A4, the proposed rate revenue average increase to the residential class is 12.9%; commercial class is 11.43%; street lighting is 8.89%; and outdoor lighting is 11.32%. Amount and percentage increases vary by rate schedules within these classes, and individual customer bill increases may also vary depending upon actual usage pattern and amount of consumption. In addition, Lockhart intends to collect from its retail customers during the first month in which the proposed rates are in effect the unbilled revenue resulting from Lockhart's Purchased Power Adjustment Clause, the mechanics of which create a one-month delay in its collection, according to the testimony of Paul W. Inman which was filed with the Company's Application.

A copy of the company's application can be found on the Commission's website at <a href="www.psc.sc.gov">www.psc.sc.gov</a> under Docket No. 2013-378-E. Additionally, a copy of the application is available from the corporate office of M. John Bowen, Jr., Esquire and Margaret M. Fox, Esquire, McNair Law Firm P.A., P. O. Box 11390, Columbia, South Carolina 29211.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a hearing on the above matter has been scheduled to begin on Tuesday, July 29, 2014, at 10:00 a.m., before the Commission in the Commission's Hearing Room at 101 Executive Center Drive, Saluda Building, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 for the purpose of receiving testimony and evidence from all interested parties. The hearing may continue through July 30, 2014, if necessary.

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter as a party of record should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure on or before May 1, 2014. For the receipt of future Commission correspondence, please include an email address in the Petition to Intervene. Please refer to Docket No. 2013-378-E and mail a copy to all other parties in this docket. Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify, in writing, the Commission; the

Direct correspondence to: Public Service Commission of South Carolina

Attention: Clerk's Office Post Office Drawer 11649 Columbia, SC 29211